

REMARKS

Entry of this amendment and reconsideration of the subject application in view thereof are respectfully requested.

I. Status of the Claims

Claims 1-16 were pending in the application. Of these, claims 10, 12 and 13 have been withdrawn, claims 1 and 2 have been rejected and claims 3-9, 11 and 14-16 have been objected to. Claims 1-9, 11 and 14-16 have been amended to clarify the invention. Claims 17 and 18 have been added. No new matter has been added.

II. Restriction/Election Requirement

The office action notes at page 2 that “[c]laims 10, 12 and 13 are withdrawn from further consideration . . .” and that “[t]he requirement is still deemed proper and is therefore made FINAL.” Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the restriction/election requirement.

III. Objection under 37 CFR 1.75(c)

Claims 3-9, 11 and 14-16 have been objected to, under 37 CFR 1.75(c), as being in improper form.

Applicant believes that this objection has been overcome by the revised claims presented herein. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection are respectfully requested.

IV. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112

Claims 1 and 2 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for omitting essential steps and other assertions set forth at pages 3-5 of the Office Action.

The rejection is moot in view of the revised claims presented herein. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

V. Conclusion

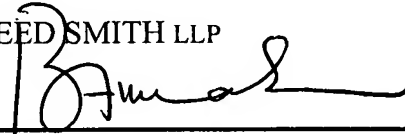
Applicant believes this response to be a full and complete response to the Office Action. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration in view of this response and allowance of all of the pending claims are earnestly solicited.

If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney.

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Respectfully submitted,

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